

Reporting period: 27 September to 3 October 2009 (Week 40)

Summary

1. The latest cases of avian influenza H5N1 in humans occurred in **Egypt** (confirmed by WHO on September 24).
2. In the past few years, about 100 cases of human AI infection were confirmed by the WHO annually, except 2008 where there were only 44 cases confirmed.
3. Cases occurred in the Western Pacific, South-East Asia and Eastern Mediterranean WHO regions. More cases were reported around January to March each year.

This week's update

| (as of 3 Oct 2009) | | Confirmed human cases (deaths) | Wild birds/ poultry reports |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | Source: WHO | Source: OIE |
| This week | Hong Kong | 0 (0) | 0 |
| | Outside HK | 0 (0) | 0 |
| | Affected countries | - | - |
| | Details | - | - |
| Cumulative since Nov. 2003 | Hong Kong | 0 | 2009: 16 dead birds confirmed H5N1 positive ^θ |
| | Outside HK | 442 (262) | |
| | Affected countries | 15 * | 62 [#] |

^θ For further information, please visit the web site of AFCD :

(http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/quarantine/qua_vetlab/qua_vetlab_nldr/h5n1_health_advice.html)

* The 15 affected countries included Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, 17 provinces in China (*Anhui, Beijing, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Liaoning, Shandong, Shanghai, Shanxi, Sichuan, Xinjiang, Zhejiang*), Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Laos, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Thailand, Turkey and Vietnam.

[#] Details of the OIE reported cases in poultry/wild birds: http://www.oie.int/eng/info_ev/en_AI_factoids_2.htm

Table 1.

WHO confirmed human cases of avian influenza A (H5N1) since 2003 by onset date of the cases (as of 3 Oct 2009)[§]

| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | Overall |
|---------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|---------|
| Cases | 4 | 46 | 98 | 115 | 88 | 44 | 47 | 442 |
| Deaths | 4 | 32 | 43 | 79 | 59 | 33 | 12 | 262 |
| Case Fatality Rate (CFR) | 100.0% | 69.6% | 43.9% | 68.7% | 67.0% | 75% | 25.5% | 59.3% |

[§] Further breakdown by countries is available at the government website "Prevention of Avian Influenza" (<http://www.info.gov.hk/info/flu/eng/global.htm>)

Table 2.

Countries/areas affected by avian influenza (H5N1) in the past 6 months
(as of 3 Oct 2009)

| WHO Region | Date of last report by WHO / OIE | Countries | In the past 6 months, H5N1 has affected |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Western Pacific | 2009-06-26 | Vietnam | Human, Poultry |
| | 2009-06-04 | China (Qinghai) | Poultry, Wild birds |
| | 2009-08-10 | Mongolia | Wild birds |
| | 2009-05-02 [#] | China (Hong Kong SAR) | Poultry, Wild birds |
| | 2009-04-19 | China (Tibet) | Poultry |
| South-East Asia | 2009-07-14 | Bangladesh | Poultry |
| | 2009-05-27 | India | Poultry |
| | 2009-01-22 | Indonesia ^{&} | Poultry |
| Eastern Mediterranean | 2009-09-24 | Egypt ^{&} | Human |
| Europe | 2009-06-24 | Russia | Wild birds |
| Africa | 2009-03-03 | Nigeria ^{&} | Poultry |
| The Americas | -- | -- | -- |

[#] A pigeon found in Tuen Mun was confirmed H5N1 positive. Source: The Agriculture, Fisheries & Conservation Department, Hong Kong.

[&] The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) has reported that avian influenza H5N1 is endemic in poultry in these countries.

Table 3.

WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 since 2003 (as of 3 Oct 2009)

| Country | Cumulative no. of cases (December 2003 to October 2009) | No. of recent cases (July to October 2009) |
|----------------|---|--|
| Azerbaijan | 8 | 0 |
| Bangladesh | 1 | 0 |
| Cambodia | 8 | 0 |
| China | 38 | 0 |
| Djibouti | 1 | 0 |
| Egypt | 87 | 9 |
| Indonesia | 141 | 0 |
| Iraq | 3 | 0 |
| Laos | 2 | 0 |
| Myanmar | 1 | 0 |
| Nigeria | 1 | 0 |
| Pakistan | 3 | 0 |
| Thailand | 25 | 0 |
| Turkey | 12 | 0 |
| Vietnam | 111 | 0 |
| Overall | 442 | 9 |

Table 4.

Details of the recent WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 (Jul to Oct 09)

(as of 3 Oct 2009)

| Date of report by WHO | Country | District | Province | Sex | Age | Outcome |
|-----------------------|---------|--------------|----------------|-----|-----|---------|
| 24/09/09 | Egypt | Tahrer | Behira | F | 1 | Alive |
| 24/09/09 | Egypt | Alexandria | Alexandria | M | 13 | Alive |
| 31/08/09 | Egypt | Menofyia | Menofyia | F | 2 | Alive |
| 31/08/09 | Egypt | Damitta | Damitta | F | 14 | Alive |
| 11/08/09 | Egypt | Shebin Elkom | Menofyia | M | 1 | Alive |
| 11/08/09 | Egypt | Kfr Elsheikh | Kfr Elsheikh | F | 8 | Alive |
| 01/07/09 | Egypt | Domiat | Domiat | M | 1 | Alive |
| 01/07/09 | Egypt | Dakhlia | Dakhlia | F | 4 | Alive |
| 01/07/09 | Egypt | Kaleen | Kefr El Sheikh | M | 1 | Alive |

Avian Influenza Report is a weekly report produced by the Respiratory Disease Office of the Centre for Health Protection as part of the Government's Preparedness Plan for Influenza Pandemic in Hong Kong. This report aims to highlight important international developments on avian influenza preparedness and control and to monitor global avian influenza activity in humans and birds.

^o Sources: World Health Organization (WHO); World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)